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THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED TO LOCATE AND ERECT
A BUILDING FOR A STATE REFORM SCHOOL
FOR JUVENILE DELINQUENTS.

To His Excellency A. W. RANDALL,

Governor of the State of Wisconsin :

During the fiscal year ending on the 30th day of September, A. D. 1859, and including the months of October, November and December following, the continuation of the work during that time advancing materially the building—for information, the progress of the work is brought forward to the time of presenting this Report.

The contracts to build the stone and carpenter work have been fully completed, and the work accepted and received on the part of the State, through the Commissioners; these comprise building the walls, doing all the timber work of the structure, window-frames and windows, making and hanging all outside doors, slating the roof, building porticos, and flights of stairs to outside doors, trimming the building with gutters and spouts for conducting the water therefrom. The surplus earth made in excavating the basement has been leveled, the front yard, 250 feet square, has been enclosed with a picket fence five feet high, and the rear yard and other parts of the site with a tight board fence six feet high. A stone sewer has been built from the building to the river, two feet wide and three and one-half feet high, and arched over the top, making the same accessible to clean, and durable in its structure.

The contractors have performed their work, so far as the Commissioners have been able to judge, with skill and integrity. No change of plan has been admitted or found necessary—the contracts being plain and specific in the settlement, no departure from them was claimed or allowed. For the work finished and accepted, there is due the

Contractors of the Stone work,.....	\$3,556 48
Contractors of the Carpenter work,.....	1,421 16

for which it is expected an appropriation will be made soon after the commencement of the session of the Legislature.

Other contracts have been concluded, requiring to finish, complete for use and occupancy, all the inside work of the building, by the first day of June next, and the work has so far progressed as to have all the partitions set, lathed and plastered with one coat of mortar. The walls have been furred, lathed and plastered one coat in like manner; many of the door casings have been set in place, and floors laid, and the work is progressing with promptness, admitting of no doubt of the ability of the contractors to finish it within the time limited by their agreements. On letting these contracts, the competition was very strong, and reliable contracts were taken at low prices for the work to be performed, and it is hoped that the necessary appropriation will be promptly made to enable the continuance of the work so nearly finished, without embarrassing the contractors, who have a right to expect the same promptness on the part of the State as is required of them.

Contracts for finishing the inside of the building have been made, and are now being executed, with the following named persons :

The Joiner work, with Messrs. Otto & Popert for,.....	\$3,249 00
The Lathing and Plastering with Mr. Harrison, for.....	1,675 00
The Plumbing with Mr. W. S. Brown, for	1,168 00
The Iron Work, with Messrs. Shumacher & Johnson, ...	885 20
The Painting, with Mr. Hugh McGarry, for	375 00

This building, when finished, will be complete in itself, providing suits and sets of rooms for offices, for the families of those having the building in charge, separate divisions for delinquent boys and girls, hospital rooms, school rooms and chapel, and all the internal arrangement necessary for the convenience of each and several distinct departments, without trespassing, in the least, upon the privacy of any other. It was computed at first that this building would accommodate one hundred delinquents, but by economizing in the division, taking advantage of the complete and peculiar arrangement for ventilating the building, the capacity has been increased full

25 per cent., without in the least crowding together any part originally arranged. Every room or dormitory has a ventilator with a cold air flue, and a flue for the escape of impure air.—The advantages of thorough ventilation, where so many may be crowded together, and by divisions increasing the capacity of the building, are considerations of practical utility, by far exceeding, in value, the extra cost of the same. These additions, in all, will amount to ten or twelve hundred dollars, thus requiring an appropriation to complete the building for use:

To liquidate balance due for the stone and carpenter work furnished,	\$4,977 64
pay contracts for inside work,.....	7,352 20
pay extra work in furnishing additional rooms, about.....	1,200 00
contingent expenses—building cisterns, digging a well, providing stoves and plain furniture, and some additional fencing, there should be allowed.....	1,500 00
	\$15,029 84

Requiring to make a complete finish of the building, and provide it with the necessary appendages and conveniences for use \$15,000 00.

It has long been the settled policy of the States to provide liberally for the general education of youths in Common Schools, by which intelligence is diffused, morality encouraged, and civilization advanced.

And the expense of the Reform School is to be regarded as a part of the necessary cost of educating the youth of the State, for there is a class of unfortunate youth, whose poverty and want of wholesome guardianship excludes, through neglect, from the benefits of the Common School, and idleness leads to temptation and to crime, and to reform and restrain them, does not consist in surrounding them with prison walls and dungeons while passing through the formative period of manhood and among experienced and hardened criminals, which association serves to debase and educate in crime, but must be done by appliances more genial and softening. The State Reform School, with its educational and industrial departments, its cultivated fields and gardens, its school rooms and play grounds, form pleasant and interesting associations; the child at once is occupied with useful and healthful exercises, relieved from squalid poverty and temptation to crime soon forgets the past, and being cared for, self-respect resumes its office in the mind, crime not having obliterated the green spots of his soul, he soon outgrows his habits of vice, and is restored to society, at his majority, with no other feeling than that, having no natural guardian to care for and protect him from poverty and the vices of a cold world, the State, and properly too, received him to its guardianship,

and shielded him from crime, and provided him not only with comforts of body, but gave him at the same time such instruction as enables him to go forth an equal with those who have received advantages from the Common School.

But if these results should not always prove true, and if the influences were not more pernicious to youth by placing them in prison, among adult criminals, than to place them in the State Reform School where none but youth are admitted—the cost to the State to provide for them in the Reform School can be no more than in the Prison; and the statistics of older States show that it costs about fifty dollars more per annum to support a prisoner in the State Prison than an inmate in the State Reform School.

For more complete particulars see First and Second Annual Reports of the Commissioners; and, as heretofore, we invite the closest scrutiny into the disbursements and management of this Institution.

W. D. BACON,
EDWIN PALMER,
MARTIN MITCHELL,
Commissioners.

WAUKESHA, December 31, 1859.

REPORT OF W. D. BACON, TREASURER,

From October 1st, 1858, to October 1st, 1859.

1858.	On what account paid.	Received.	Disbursed.
October,...	To balance overpaid, (see last report),..	.....	\$536 32
Nov. 19,...	To paid contractors of stone work,.....	.....	640 00
Dec. 15,...	stone work,.....	.....	600 00
Dec. 15,...	carpenter work,...	.....	626 00
1859.			
June 1,...	W. D. Bacon as Sup. per diem,...	.....	240 00
	travel,.....	.....	98 00
	Received of State Treasurer to this date, and in full ballance of appropriation made March 17th, 1857,.....	\$3,920 00	.....
June 2,...	To paid contractors of stone work,.....	.....	1,484 00
	carpenter work,...	.....	85 00
	W. D. Bacon as Com'r and Sup't,.....	.....	251 50
June 7,...	To paid contractors of stone work,.....	.....	1,200 00
June 20,...	carpenter work,...	.....	540 00
June 27,...	stone work,.....	.....	300 00
Aug. 3,...	carpenter work,...	.....	973 58
Aug. 3,...	stone work,.....	.....	958 00
Aug. 8,...	stone work,.....	.....	500 00
Aug. 20,...	carpenter work,...	.....	566 00
Aug. 29,...	stone work,.....	.....	400 00
	carpenter work,...	.....	200 00
	E. Palmer,.....	.....	420 00
Sept. 1,...	M. Mitchell,.....	.....	157 60
Sept. 10,...	stone work,.....	.....	506 49
Sept. 30,...	carpenter work,...	.....	789 06
	enclosing land,...	.....	250 00
	To paid abstract for title to land,.....	.....	8 30
	for brick,.....	.....	31 50
	bond and lintel timber,.....	.....	94 75
	printing proposals,.....	.....	8 50
	joiner work,.....	.....	100 00
	E. Palmer,.....	.....	323 00
	contractors of stone work,.....	.....	601 50
	Received for use of land,.....	60 00	.....
	Received at sundry times appropriation in full, made March, 1859,.....	10,000 00	.....
	And to balance on hand,.....	.....	490 99
		\$13,980 00	\$13,980 00

W. D. BACON, *Treasurer.*

WAUKESHA, October 1st, 1859.